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REMARKS

Claims 28 to 33, 35 to 38 and 41 to 49 are pending. Claims 41 to 43 are allowed and claims 36 and 37 are objected to. Claim 50 is new. Claim 29 is canceled.

1. Claims 28, 30 to 33, 38, 44, 45 and 47 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elmquist et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,602,637) in view of Baker, Jr. (U.S. Patent No. 4,679,572) and further in view of Chen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,953,633). Independent claim 28 has been amended to include the subject matter of objected to claim 36. In its newly amended form, claim 28 is believed to be patentable over this combination of prior art references. Claims 20 to 33 and 38 are allowable as hinging from a patentable base claim. Claims 44, 45 and 47 are canceled.

Reconsideration of this rejection is requested.

2. Claim 35 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elmquist et al., Baker, Jr. and Chen et al. as applied to claims 28, 30 to 33, 38, 44, 45 and 47 and further in view of Johansson et al. U.S. patent No. 5,427,631). This claim is believed to be allowable as hinging from patentable base claim 28.

Reconsideration of this rejection is requested.

3. Claim 46 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Elmquist et al., Baker, Jr. and Chen et al. as applied to claims 29 to 33, 38, 44, 45 and 47 and further in view of Moaddeb et al.

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(U.S. Patent No. 5,645,580). Claim 46 has been canceled, which renders this rejection moot.

4. The Applicants acknowledge the allowance of claims 41 to 43, 48 and 49.

5. Claims 36 and 37 are objected to. The subject matter of claim 36 has been combined with that of claim 28 to place the independent claim in a patentable form. Similarly, the subject matter of claim 37 has been combined with that of claim 28 to form new claim 50. Accordingly, amended independent claim 28 and new independent claim 50 are believed to be patentable.

6. Formal drawings have previously been filed in this application on March 23, 2004. Entry of them into the record of the application is requested.

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon has been reviewed. However, it is not considered to be more pertinent to the presently claimed invention than the currently cited prior art.

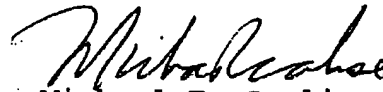
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It is believed that claims 28, 30 to 33, 35, 38, 41 to 43 and 48 to 50 are now in condition for allowance.. Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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March 26, 2004

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